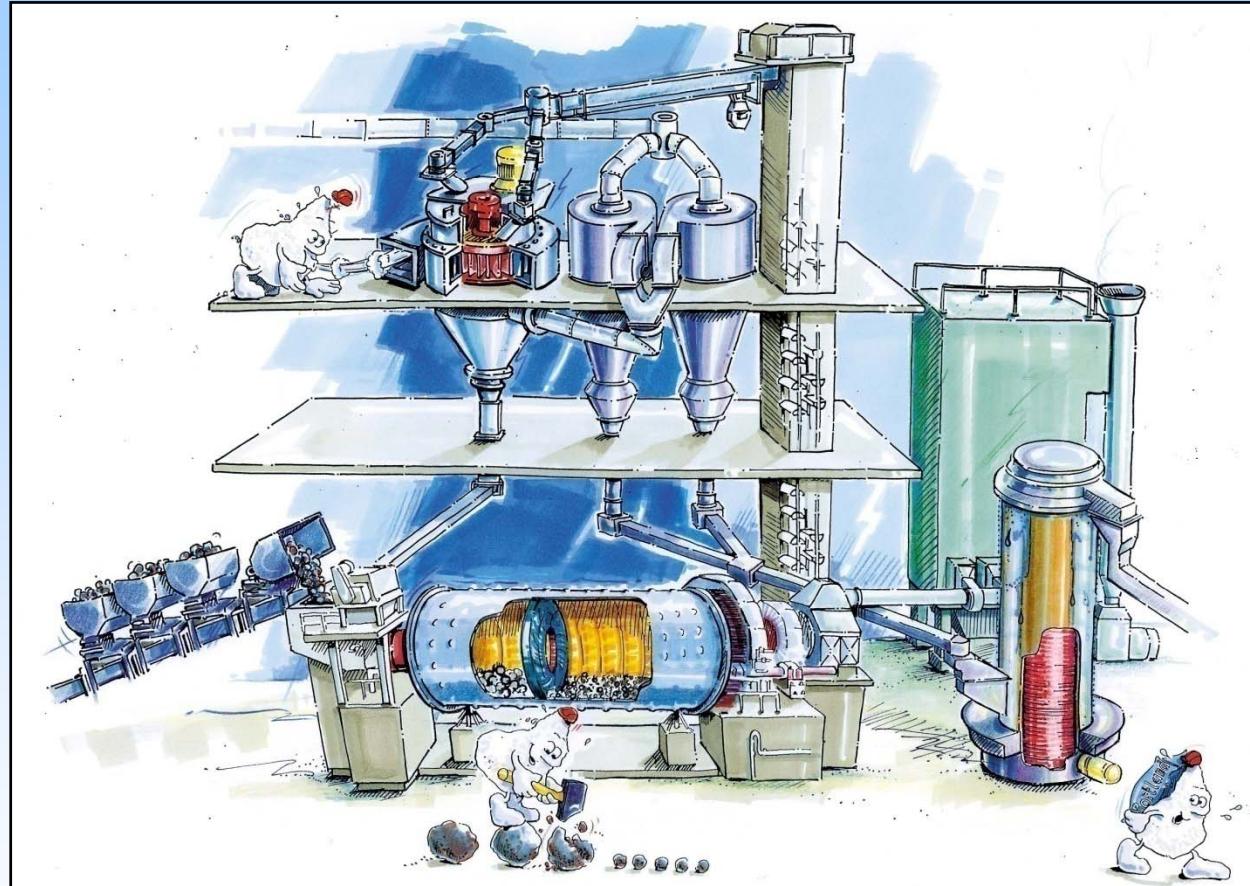


Ball mill inspection procedure



Tim Nowack

Senior Process Engineer

Christian Pfeiffer Maschinenfabrik GmbH



General
Material sampling
Longitudinal sampling
Filling degree
Material level
Internals condition
Ball charge
Trompcurve
Ventilation
Weighfeeder
Instrument
Control loop

Navigation

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General:

The process engineer should be the doctor of the system.

The “doctor” is required for:

- 1) implementation of “Health checks”
→ Regular action
- 2) urgent investigations of actual
process problems
→ Non-regular action

**This presentation focuses on the regular
“Health check” procedure.**



General
Material sampling
Longitudinal sampling
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General:

The “Health checks” consist of standard measurements on a frequent basis

Type of measurement:	12 months schedule											
Circuit mat. granulometry												
Mill longitudinal sieving	●									●		●
Ball charge filling degree	●									●		●
Mill material level	●									●		●
Mill internal conditions	●									●		●
Ball charge sampling									●			
Separator Tromp curve								●				
Separator ventilation								●				
Mill ventilation								●				
Weigh feeder calibration								●				
Instrument verification	●							●		●		●
Control loop verification								●				

Main annual audit



General:

“Healths checks” are important in order to:

- build up a knowledge and data base about the system performance
- record the data and display them in trends for fast and easy diagnostic of problems

The main advantage:

Knowledge basis allows to investigate the root cause of problems and to avoid problems by early reaction based on the trend results.

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General:

For each measurement make sure you have:

- **design data of the machines/equipment available.**
- **constant/stable operation condition for at least 2 hours.**
- **recorded the actual operation data like:**
 - Production rate [t/h], Product type, composition [M-%]
 - Actual and target fineness of product [Blaine or Residue]
 - Actual mass flow rate (e.g. separator grits, water demand, etc.)
 - Electrical power consumption of the main equipment
 - Actual operation parameter of the main equipment (e.g. separator speed, damper positions)

General
Material sampling

Longitudinal sampling

Filling degree
Material level

Internals condition

Ball charge

Trompcurve

Ventilation

Weighfeeder

Instrument

Control loop

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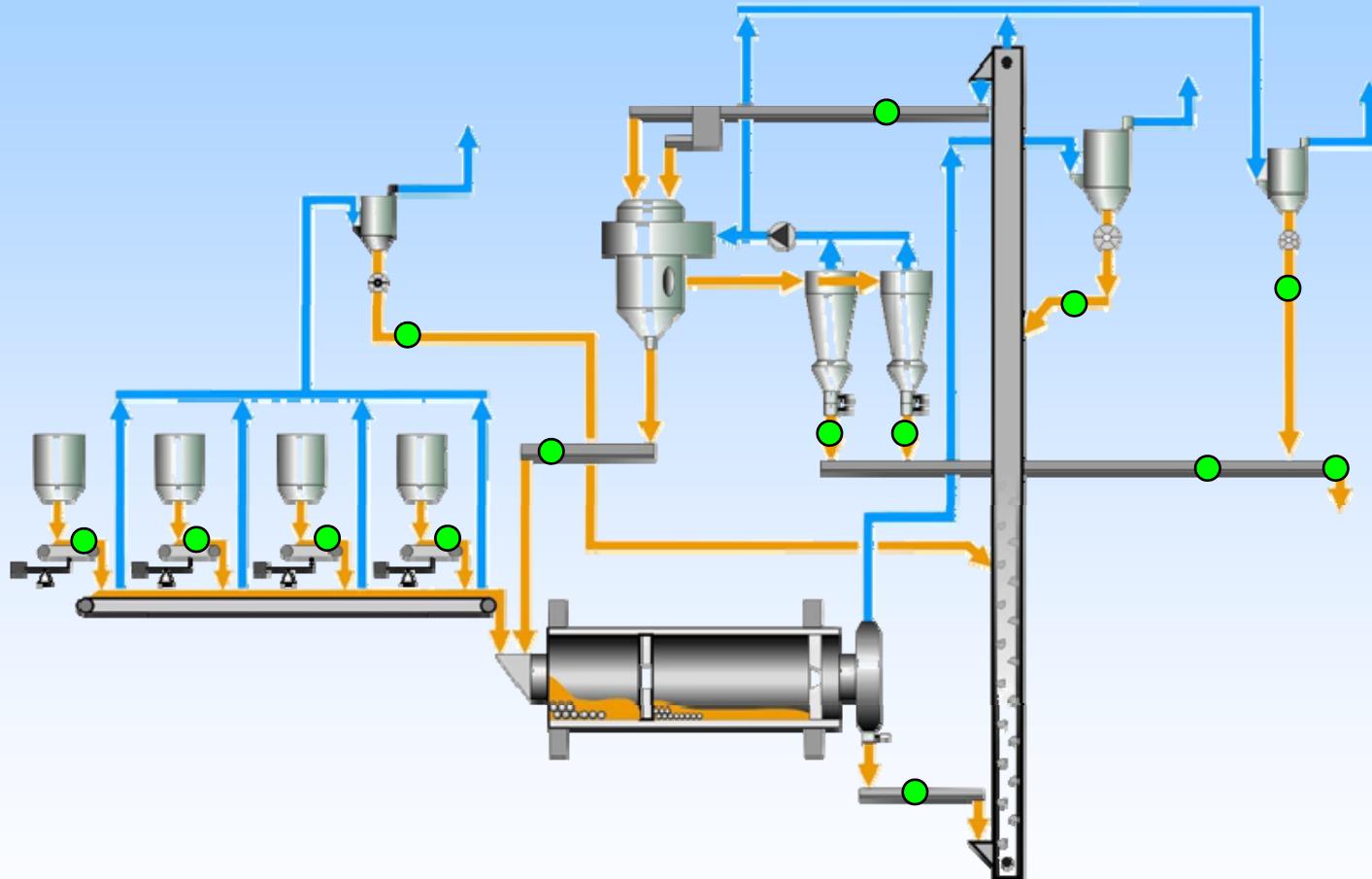
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Circuit material granulometry:

Sampling points



- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level
- Internals condition
- Ball charge
- Trompcurve
- Ventilation
- Weighfeeder
- Instrument
- Control loop

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Circuit material granulometry:

General
Material sampling ←
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Sampling point:	█	⌚	Procedures	
Clinker feed	10 kg	1 x per Test	🌡	Sieving
Gypsum feed			H ₂ O	50, 25, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, [mm]
Additive No.1 feed			H ₂ O	
Additive No. 2 feed			H ₂ O	
Mill outlet material	0.5 kg	1 x every hour	🌡	Pre-screening with 450 µm sieve
Separator feed material			🌡	
Separator grits material			🌡	
Separator fines cyclone 1			🌡	PSD from 1-450 µm with Laser equipment (e.g. Cilas, Malvern, Sympatec)
Separator fines cyclone 2			🌡	
Separator fines mix			🌡	
Filter dust 1 (weighfeeder)			🌡	
Filter dust 2 (circuit dedusting)			🌡	
Filter dust 3 (mill dedusting)			🌡	
Cement			🌡	Fineness acc. to Blaine [cm ² /g]



- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
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- Ball charge
- Trompcurve
- Ventilation
- Weighfeeder
- Instrument
- Control loop

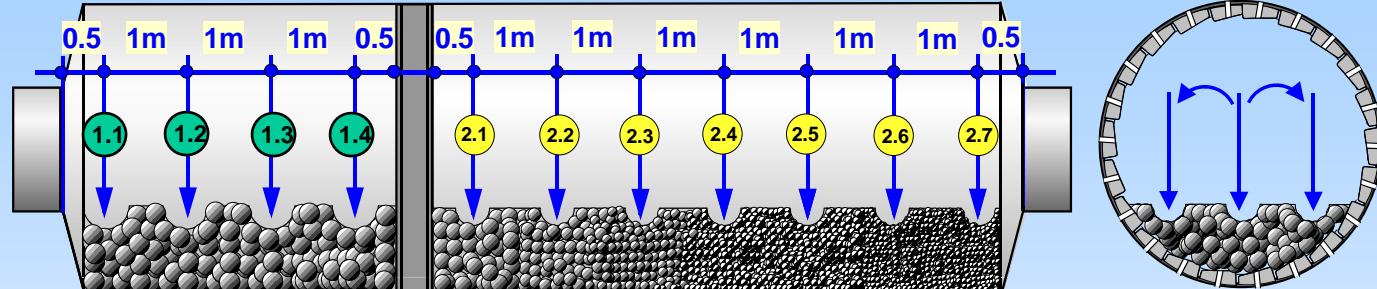
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Longitudinal sampling:

Sampling points at **crash stop**



Sample weight:

1st compartment: 1-2 kg
2nd compartment: 0.5 kg





- General
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- Ventilation
- Weighfeeder
- Instrument
- Control loop

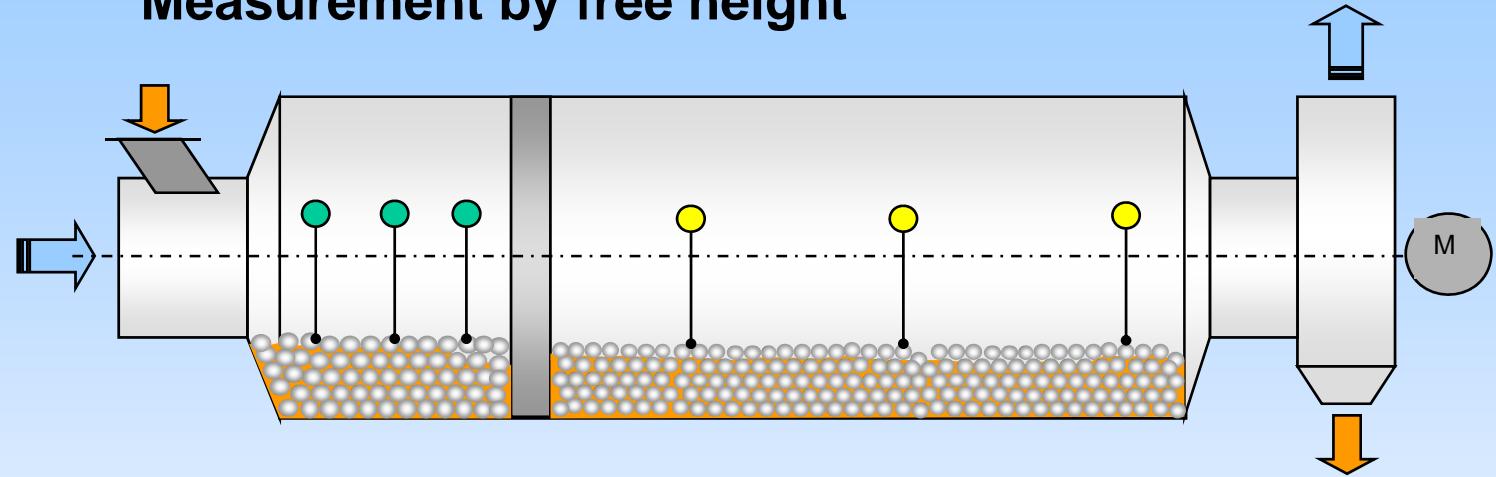
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Ball charge filling degree:

Measurement by free height



1. Measure average internal diameter, D_i
2. Measure height, h , in three different points along axis for each grinding compartment

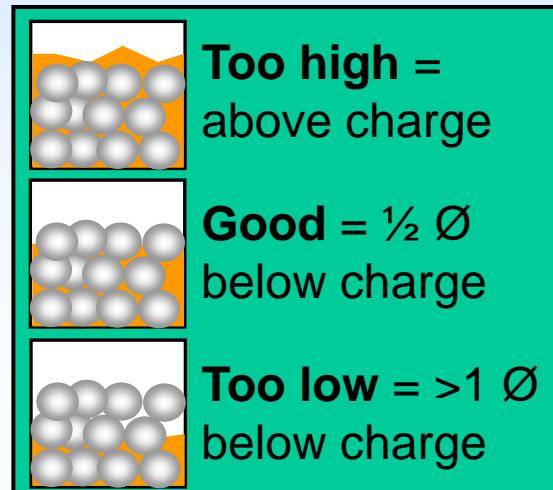
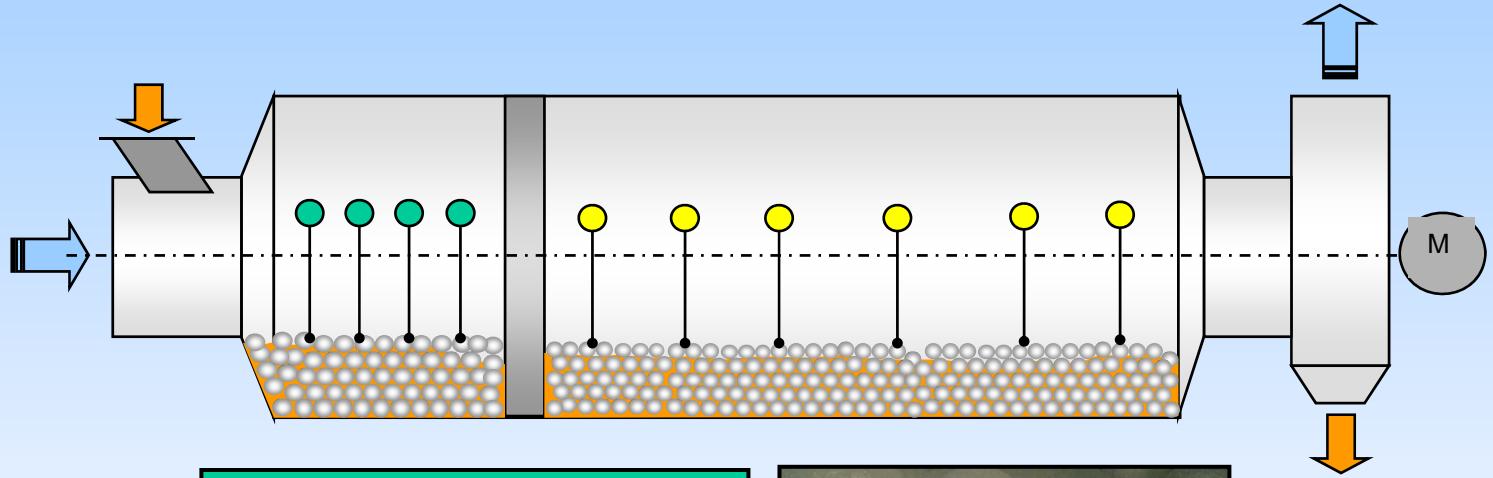
For best results the measurement takes place in an empty mill (mill feed stopped for approx. 10 min).



Mill material level:

Inspection only at *crash stop*

Record the material level approx. each meter along axis



**Good material level
for 1st compartment**

- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level** 
- Internals condition
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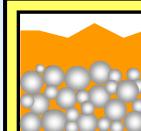
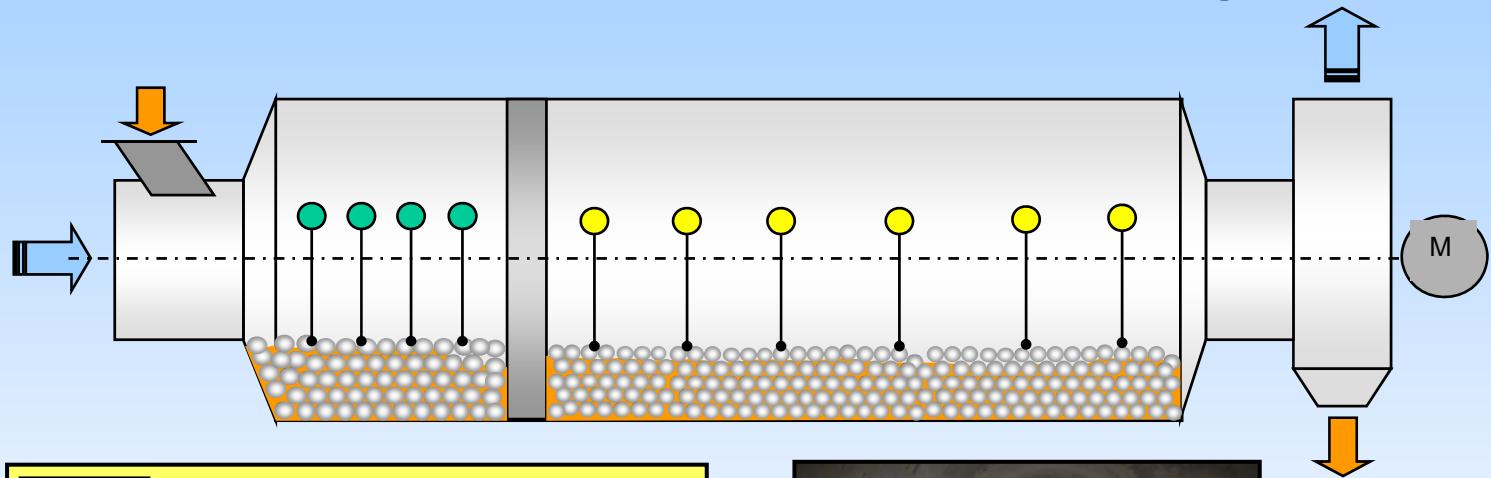


Mill material level:

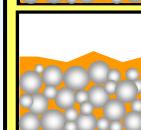
Inspection only at **crash stop**

Record the material level approx. each meter along axis

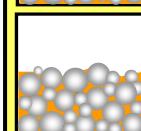
- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level
- Internals condition
- Ball charge
- Trompcurve
- Ventilation
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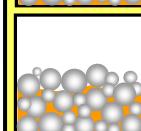
**Too high = > 50mm
above charge**



Good = approx. 20 mm
above charge



Moderate = equal with ball charge



**Too low = >> 50 mm
below charge**



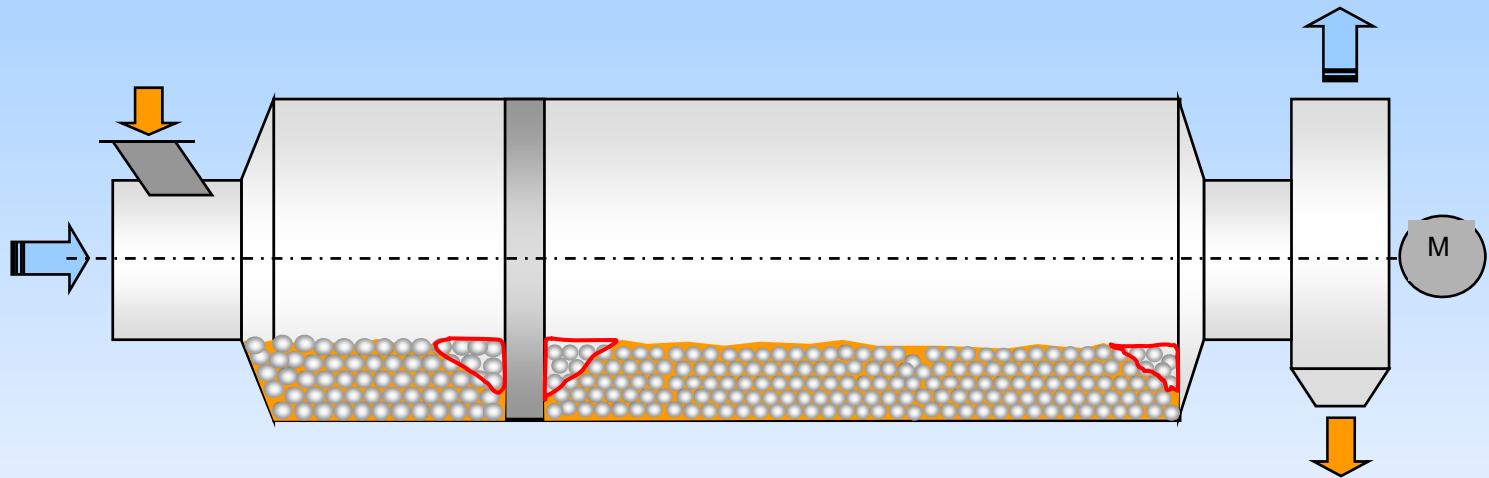
Good material level for 2nd compartment



Mill material level:

Inspection only at crash stop

Record the material level before and after **transfer points**



- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level** ←
- Internals condition
- Ball charge
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Ball mill inspection procedure

Mill internals condition:

CRASH STOP INFORMATION:

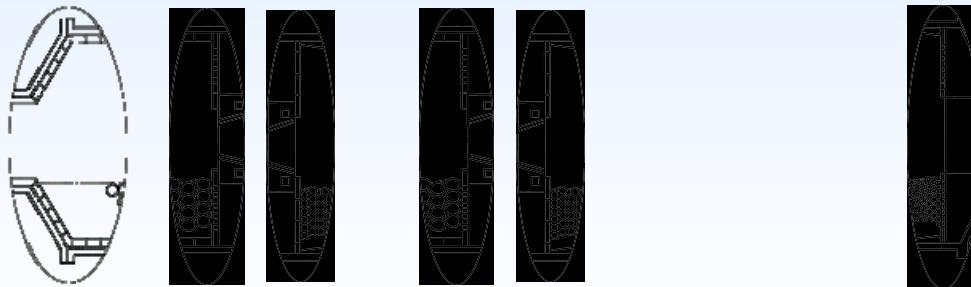
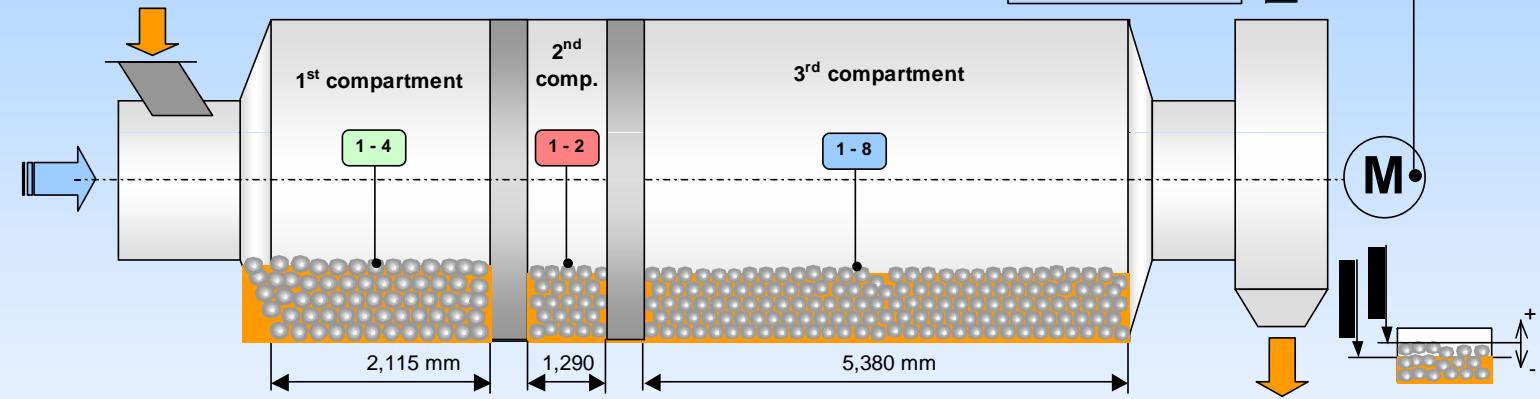
Type of product: **OPC**

Total mill feed: n.a. [t/h]
Fresh feed: n.a. [t/h]
Coarse return: n.a. [t/h]

Finish mill No. 2
Ø 3,5 m x 9,6 m

Main mill drive:	
power installed	1495 [kWh]
power absorbed	n.a. [kWh]
mill speed	16,72 [r.p.m.]
critical speed	72,67 [%]

Free heightcalculation:
Pabs = 1247 kW



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Ball mill inspection procedure

Mill internals condition:

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MILL SHELL LINING SYSTEM:

1st compartment:

Type of lining: Wave liners (5 rows)
Type of fastening: bolted
Condition: Worse / Rem. lifting height 50-65mm
Remarks: Many broken plates - scraps in gaps
None DIN type

Measurement Point	Free Height above charge	Material level	Ball sizes
1	2.260	one side approx.	90 - 50
2	-	30mm below	
3	-		
4	-		
AVG.	2.260	FG = 28.2%	

2nd compartment:

Type of lining: Wave liners (3 rows)
Type of fastening: bolted
Condition: Good condition - some
Remarks: Average lifting height: Poor Material level

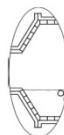
Measurement Point	Free Height above charge	Material level	Ball sizes

3rd compartment:

Type of lining: Drag Peb lining with Da
Type of fastening: semi bolted / Danubia rin
Condition: Mechanical good condit
Remarks: Small balls in gaps betw
plates

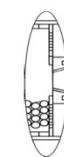
MILL DIAPHRAGMS:

HEAD LINER



	inner diameter <----> outer diameter			
	1	2	3	4
Lining ring	8	16	16	16
Number of plates per ring	8			
Base Thickness	x	x	x	x
Residual Thickness	65 mm	40-70	50-80	50-70
Lifter height	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Number of bolts per plate	2	2	2	2
Remark	-	worn out broken plates replaced plates	-	-
Ø mill inlet		1,005 mm		
Type of mill head		conical		

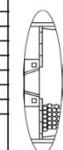
INTERMEDIATE DIAPHRAGM NO.1



MILL DIAPHRAGMS:



Frontside				Backside				
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
inner diameter <----> outer diameter					inner diameter <----> outer diameter			
Lining ring	8	16	-	-	8	16	-	-
Number of plates per ring	8				x	x	-	-
Base Thickness	x	x	-	-	x	x	-	-
Residual Thickness	20-40	20-35	-	-	65-80	65-80	-	-
Lifter height	n.a.	n.a.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	-	-
Number of bolts per plate	4	3	-	-	4	3	-	-
Slot type	circum.	circum.	-	-	n.a.	n.a.	-	-
Slot width	2-9.5				n.a.	n.a.	-	-
Open area	~95%	>			100%	95%	-	-
Remark	mesh Ø 490mm	bi i			mesh Ø 490mm	-	-	-
Material flow control								n.a.
Width of diaphragm								x
Condition of structure								mechanical acceptable condition
Ø-Centre opening					1000 mm			1010 mm



	inner diameter <----> outer diameter			
	1	2	3	4
Lining ring	8	16	-	-
Number of plates per ring	x	x	-	-
Base Thickness	x	x	-	-
Residual Thickness	25-40	20-35	-	-
Lifter height	n.a.	n.a.	-	-
Number of bolts per ring	4	4	-	-
Slot type	radial	radial	-	-
Slot width	5-6	5-8	-	-
Open area	100%	~80%	-	-
Remark	screen with small free area	-	-	-

Width of diaphragm	x
Condition of structure	good
Ø-Centre opening	x

Name	MILL DATA SHEET	Installation	Finish mill No. 2
Now		Mill Dimensions	Ø 3.5 m x 9.6 m
Date	Project No.	Customer	Plant
09.06.2005	Country		



Mill internals condition:

- General**
- Material sampling**
- Longitudinal sampling**
- Filling degree**
- Material level**
- Internals condition** ←
- Ball charge**
- Trompcurve**
- Ventilation**
- Weighfeeder**
- Instrument**
- Control loop**

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- General
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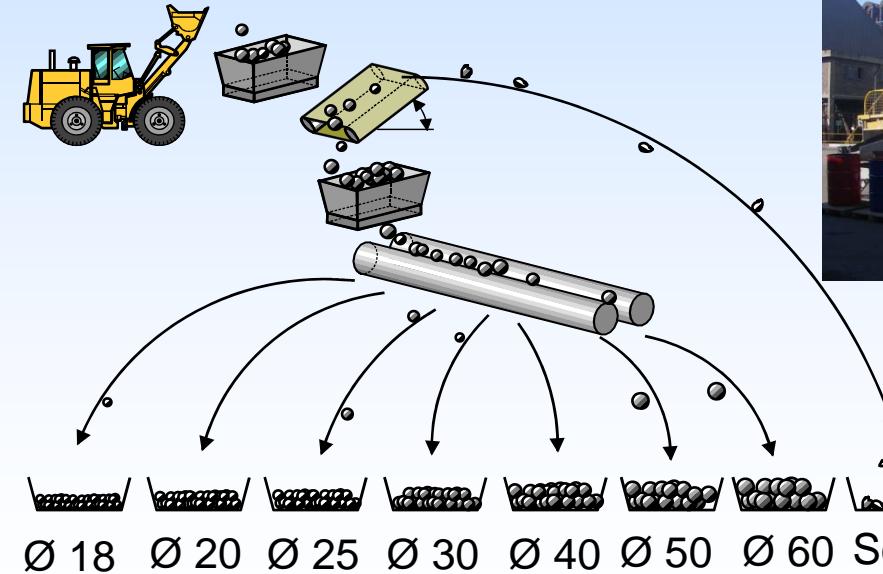
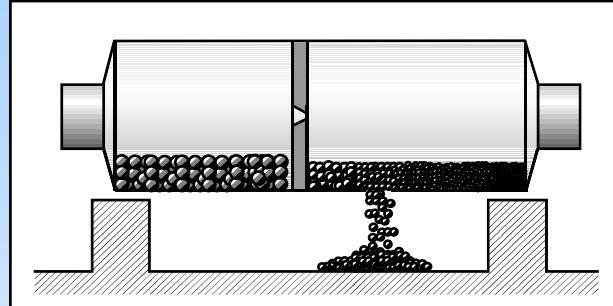
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Ball charge sampling:

Solution 1) Total sorting of ball charge





- General
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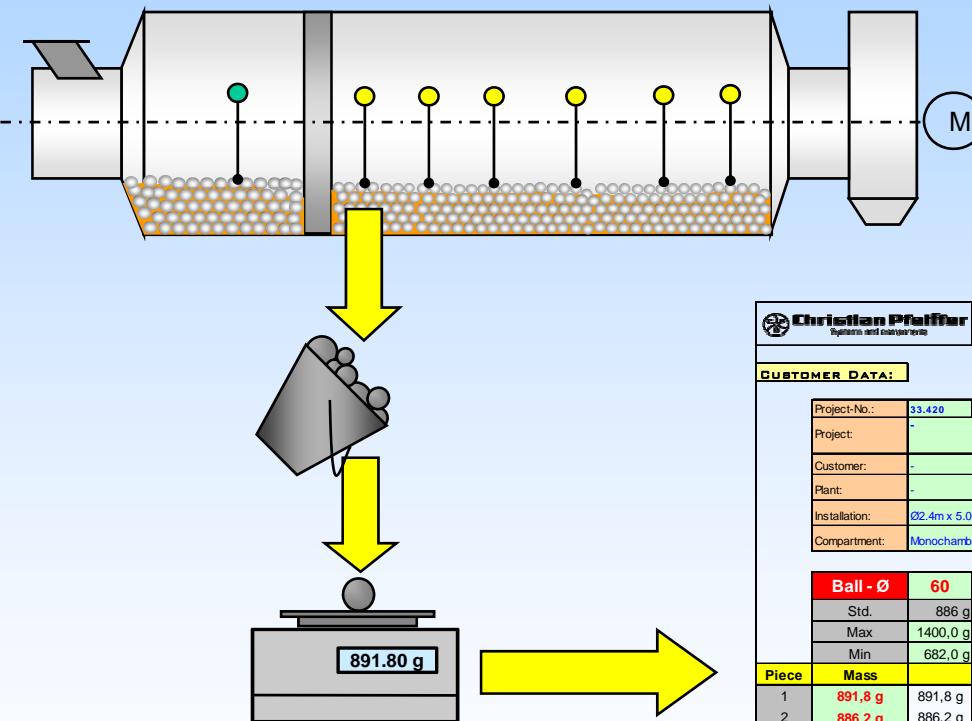
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Ball charge sampling:

Solution 2) Analysing the actual grinding media composition by spot samples.



Christian Pfeiffer Systems and Services		AVG. PIECE WEIGHT Input Table						Date: 23.02.2006 Prepared by: Now					
CUSTOMER DATA:								GRINDING BALLS					
Project-No.:	33.420	Project:	-	Customer:	-	Plant:	-	Installation:	02.4m x 5.0m wih QDK 8.5-F	Compartment:	Monochamber (1/3 lifter - 2/3 class.)		
Ball - Ø	60	50	40	30	25	20	Std.	886 g	513 g	262 g	111 g	64 g	33 g
	Max	1400,0 g	681,0 g	374,0 g	176,0 g	80,0 g	44,0 g						
	Min	682,0 g	375,0 g	177,0 g	81,0 g	45,0 g	14,0 g						
Piece	Mass												
1	891,8 g		891,8 g										
2	886,2 g		886,2 g										
3	879,6 g		879,6 g										
4	878,0 g		878,0 g										
5	873,5 g		873,5 g										
6	873,3 g		873,3 g										
7	861,0 g		861,0 g										
8	860,6 g		860,6 g										
9	858,2 g		858,2 g										



- General
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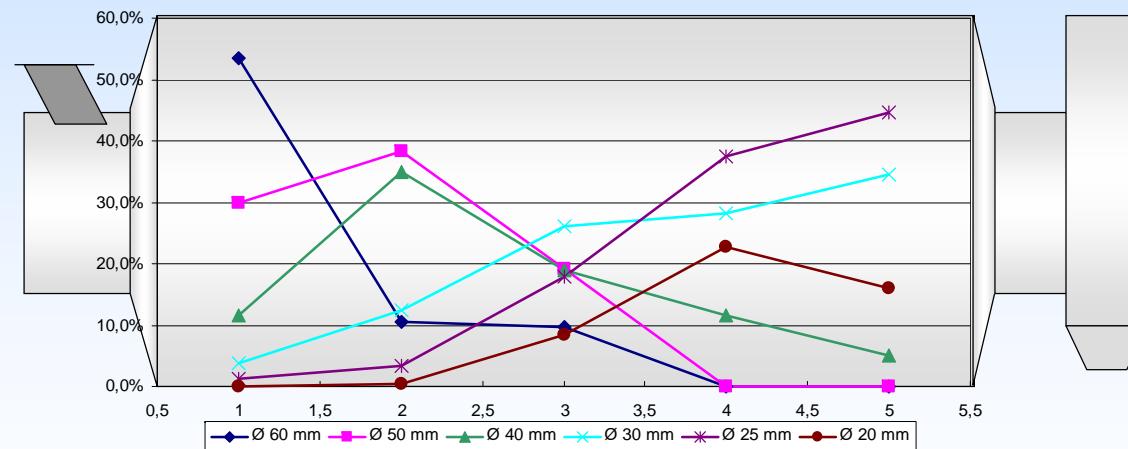
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Ball charge sampling:

Solution 2) Analysing the actual grinding media composition by spot samples.

RESULTS OF GRINDING MEDIA SAMPLING

Ball Ø	Sampling Point														
	1			2			3			4			5		
	pc.	weight	mass-%	pc.	weight	mass-%	pc.	weight	mass-%	pc.	weight	mass-%	pc.	weight	mass-%
60	24	19920	53,56%	3	2552	10,54%	3	2353	9,68%	0	0	0,00%	0	0	0,00%
50	23	11112	29,88%	20	9269	38,28%	10	4651	19,13%	0	0	0,00%	0	0	0,00%
40	18	4293	11,54%	35	8468	34,97%	19	4592	18,88%	5	1209	11,58%	4	952	4,96%
30	13	1384	3,72%	28	2997	12,38%	59	6328	26,02%	28	2943	28,19%	63	6617	34,46%
25	8	481	1,29%	14	835	3,45%	73	4369	17,97%	66	3923	37,57%	144	8576	44,67%
20	0	0	0,00%	3	93	0,39%	66	2025	8,33%	76	2366	22,66%	98	3056	15,91%
Total	86	37190	100,00%	103	24215	100,00%	230	24316	100,00%	175	10441	100,00%	309	19200	100,00%



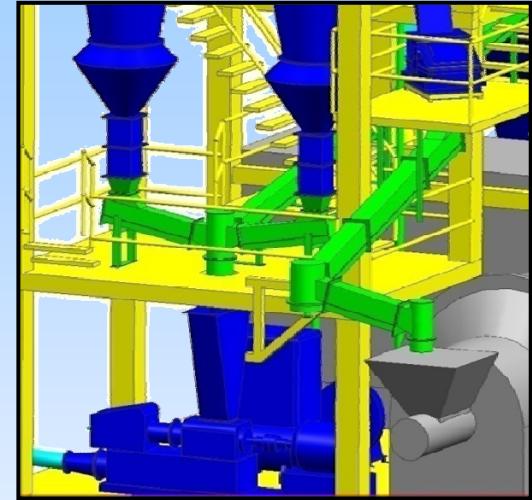
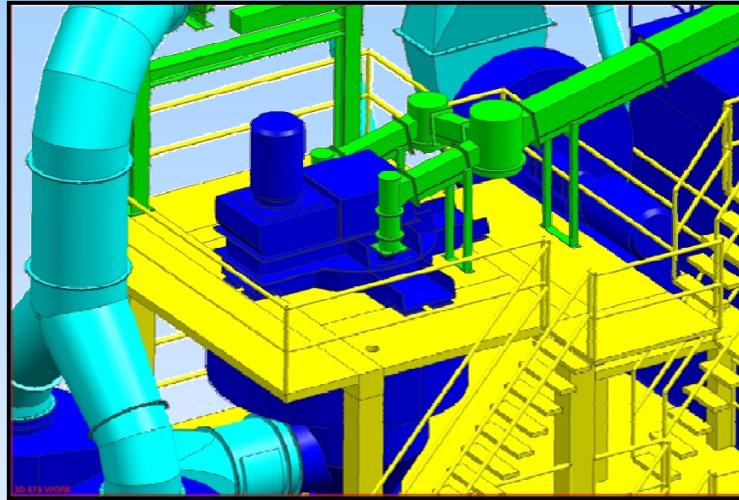
Name	Avg. piece weight	Installation
Now		-
Date	Project No.	Mill dimensions
23.02.2006	33.420	-
	Country	Customer
	-	-

 **Christian Preifler**
Systems and components



Separator tromp curve:

Define the sampling points



- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
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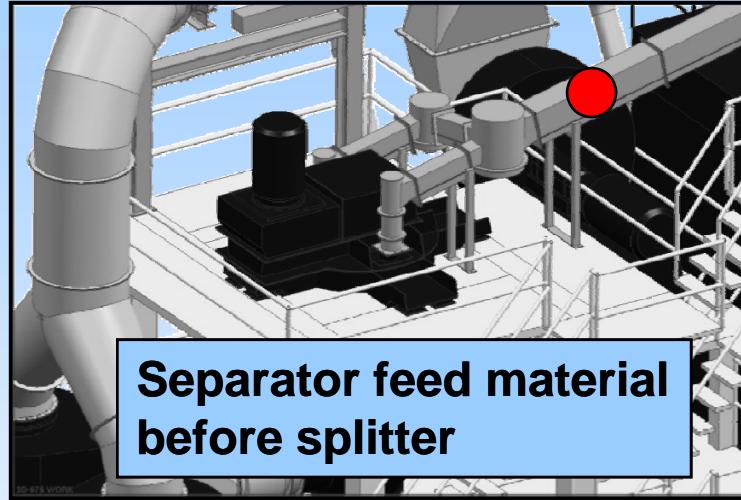
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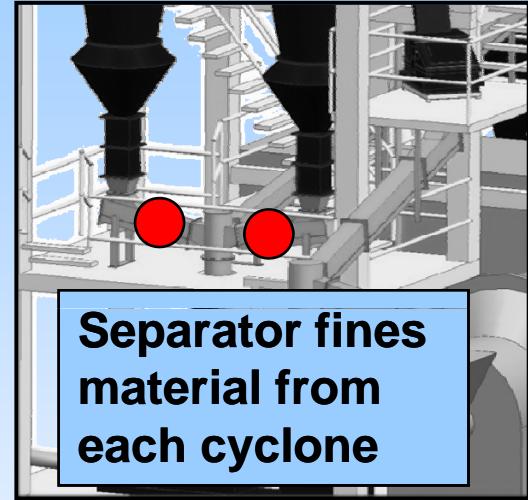
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Separator tromp curve:

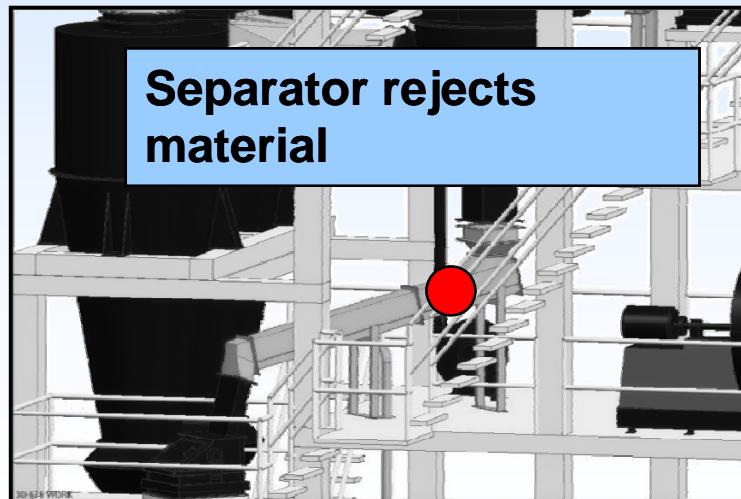
Define the sampling points



**Separator feed material
before splitter**



**Separator fines
material from
each cyclone**



**Separator rejects
material**

and

**Check the stable
condition of the circuit**

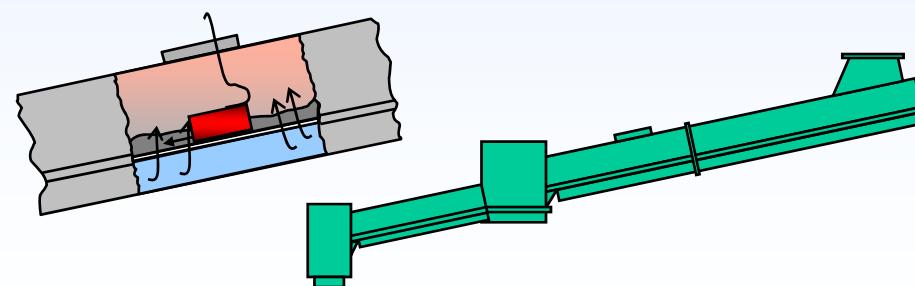
**Record all main operation
parameters**



Separator tromp curve:

Define the sampling points

Sampling point:	█	⌚	Procedures	
Separator feed material	0.5 kg	1 x every hour	🌡	Pre-screening with 450 µm sieve
Separator grits material			🌡	PSD from 1-450 µm with Laser equipment (e.g. Cilas, Malvern, Sympatec)
Separator fines cyclone 1			🌡	Fineness acc. to Blaine [cm ² /g]
Separator fines cyclone 2			🌡	



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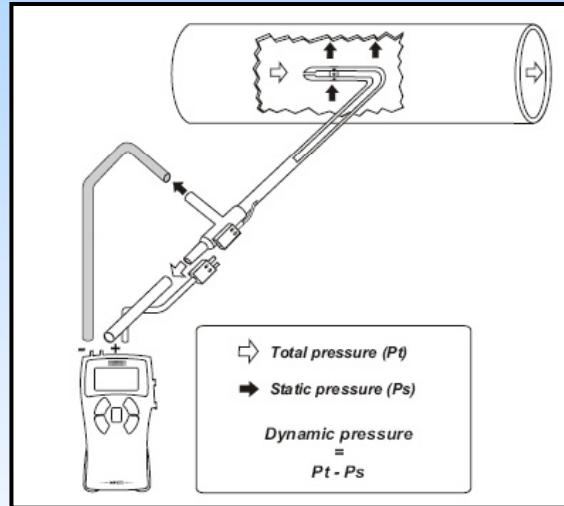
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Separator Ventilation:

Basics: **Air flow measurement**

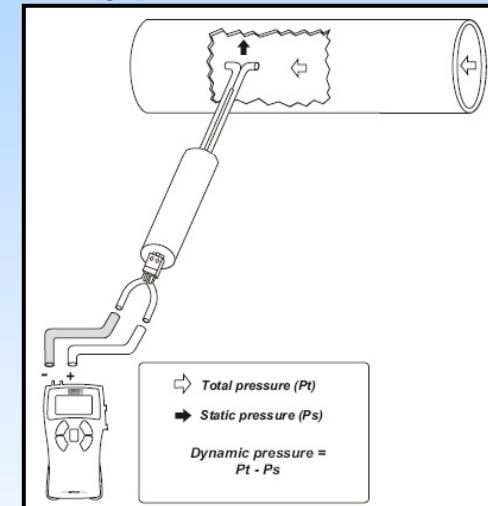
Select your equipment

Prandtl-Pitot Tube



- No correction factor needed
- Easy to operate within 15° angle
- Only in low vortex channel
- Not for high dust loaded channels

S-Type Tube



- Correction factor required (~0.84)
- Misalignment results in mistakes
- Preferred for high dust loaded channels



- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level
- Internals condition
- Ball charge
- Trompcurve
- Ventilation
- Weighfeeder
- Instrument
- Control loop

◀ Navigation ▶

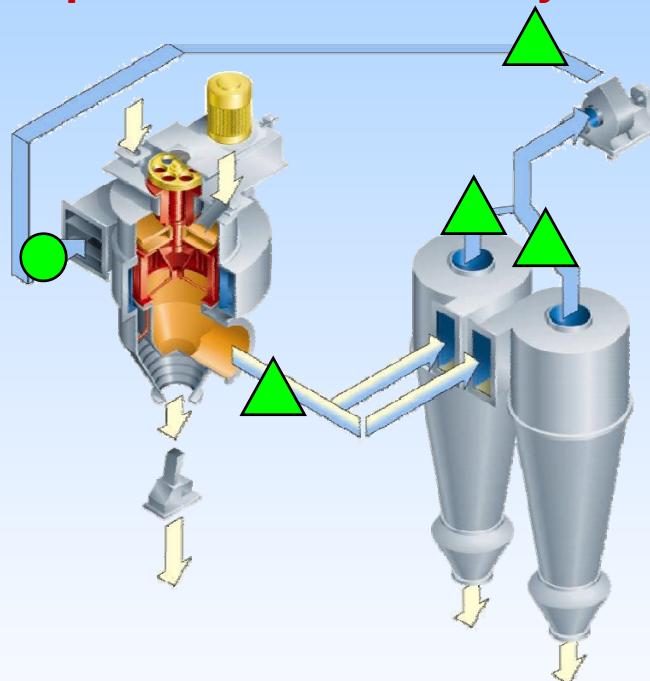
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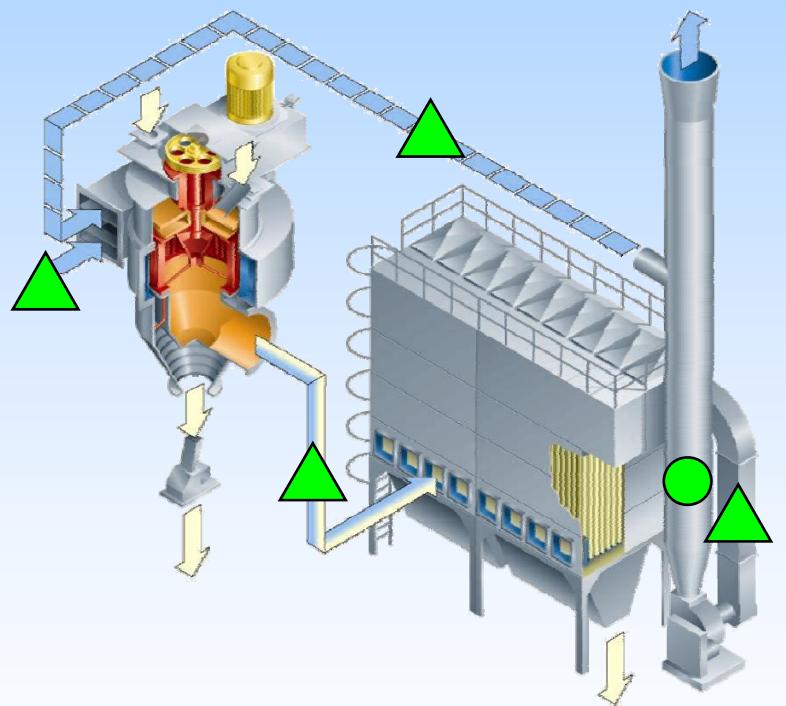
Separator Ventilation:

Measurement points:

Separator circuit with cyclones



Separator circuit with filter



● = Air flow, Static pressure,
Temperature

△ = Static pressure, Temperature



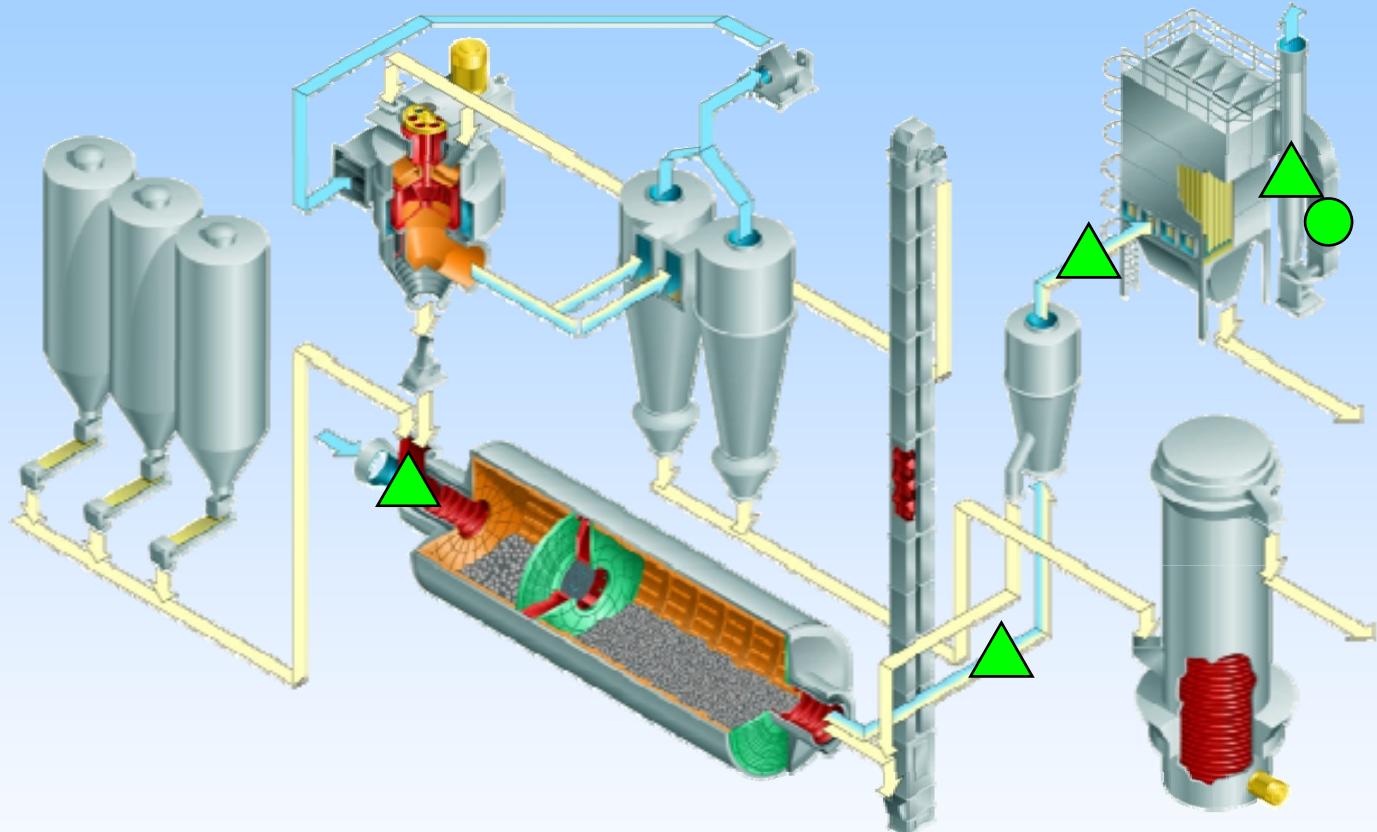
Mill Ventilation:

- General
- Material sampling
- Longitudinal sampling
- Filling degree
- Material level
- Internals condition
- Ball charge
- Trompcurve
- Ventilation ◀
- Weighfeeder
- Instrument
- Control loop

◀ Navigation ▶

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● = Air flow, Static pressure,
Temperature

△ = Static pressure, Temperature

Remark: Consider minimum
10% false air intake after mill.



General
 Material sampling
 Longitudinal sampling
 Filling degree
 Material level
 Internals condition
 Ball charge
 Trompcurve
 Ventilation
Weighfeeder 
 Instrument
 Control loop

 Navigation

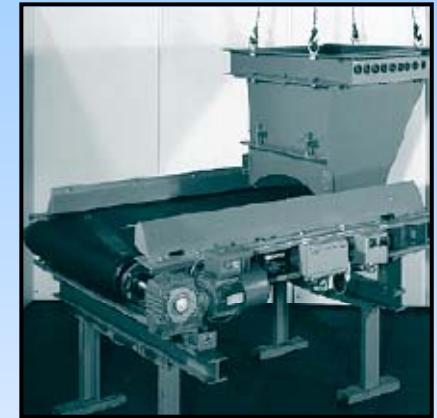
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Weigh Feeder Calibration:

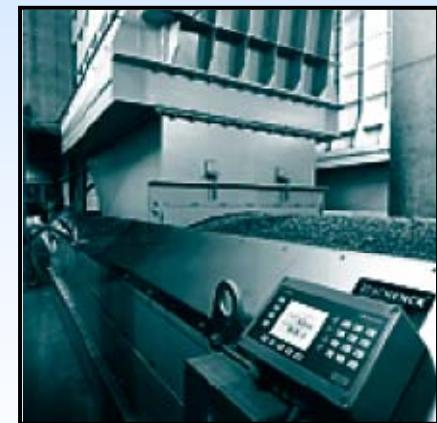
a) Static calibration - feeder not in operation

- Zero-point - adjustment (local control box, no load)
- Span adjustment with calibration weight (local control box)



b) Calibration with feeder in operation (preferred if possible)

- operate weigh feeder with defined setpoint and load material into truck for e.g. 10 minutes, while mill is shut down
- weigh truck empty and loaded, calculate throughput and adjust controller if necessary





Instrument Verification:

General
Material sampling
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1) Electronically

- Check and adjust zero-point and span with e.g. mA-transmitter

2) Operation check

- Compare control room indication with local manual measurement of temperature, pressure and flow

→ Adjust transmitters



- General
- Material sampling
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Control loop Verification:

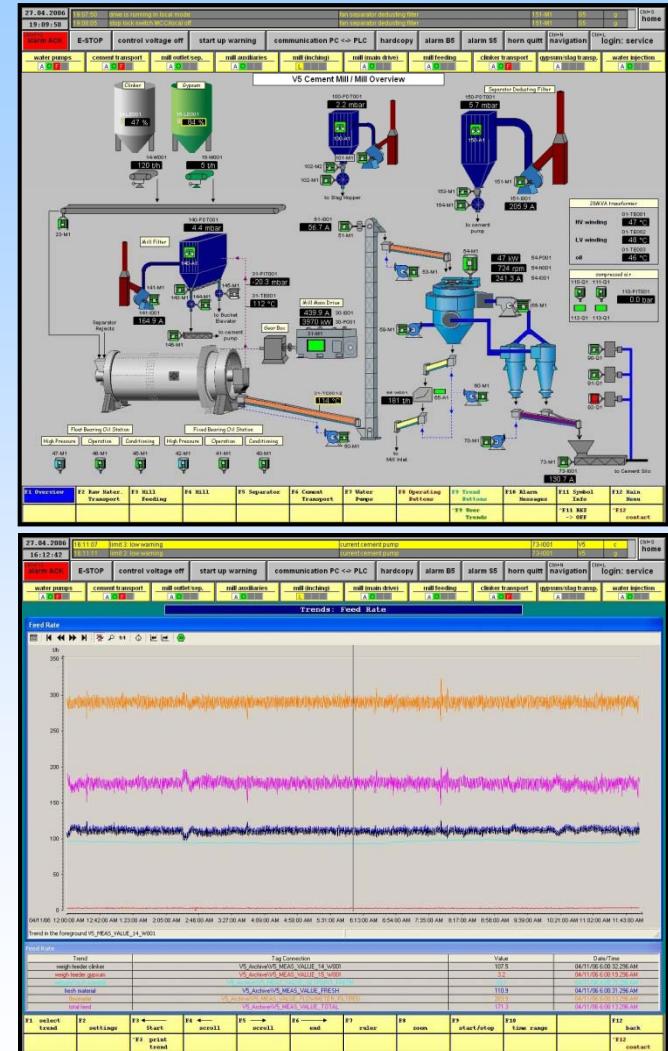
1) Operation check

- record process parameters with control loop in operation over period of e.g. 6-8 hours with constant production
- record mill power consumption at counter (kWh)

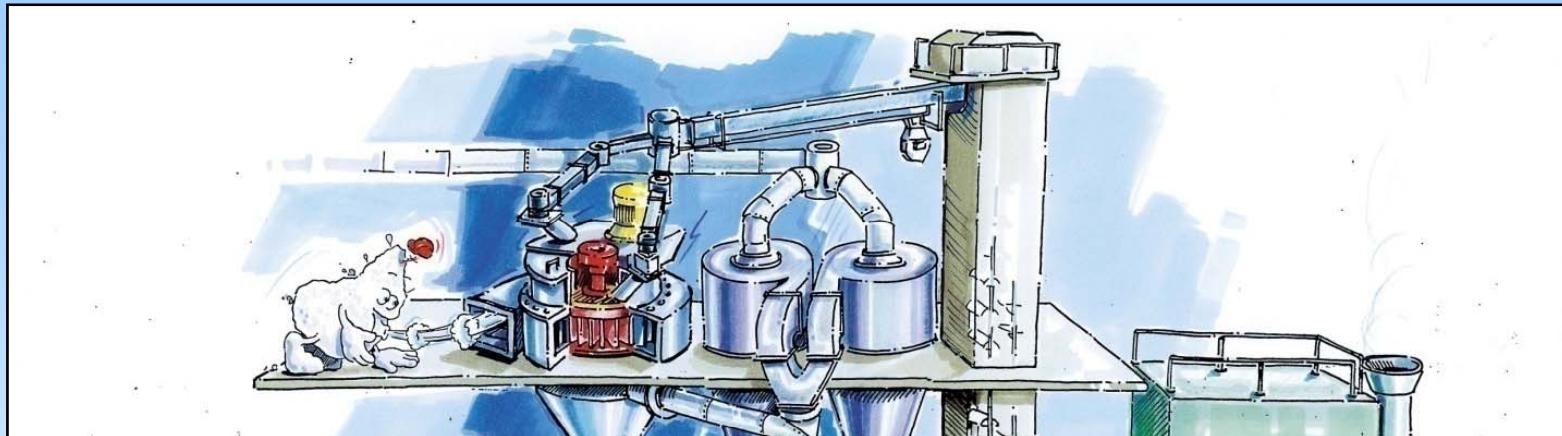
→ Adjust control loop parameters if necessary

Information on:

- Available information at the CCR
- Control system
- Control strategy
- First impression on operation
- Circuit stability



Thank you for your attention



Questions?

